

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1287
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XH
SUBJECT: A WORLD COMMUNIST CONFERENCE?

1. SUMMARY. THE CPSU IS KEEPING THE IDEA OF A WORLD COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE (WCPC) ALIVE-- FOR REASONS TOO MURKY TO BE IMMEDIATELY APPARENT. BUT WE SEE LITTLE SUPPORT AT THE MOMENT AMONG THE OTHER PARTIES IN THE MOVEMENT.
END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL REVIEW MARCH 14 ENDED ITS RECITAL OF VICTORIES BY VARIOUS "PEACE-LOVING FORCES" THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BY NOTING THAT "WITNESS OF THE UNDOUBTED SUCCESSES OF THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT IS CON-

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VINCINGLY GIVEN BY THE FACT THAT IN MANY OF ITS POINTS

THE PROGRAM OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST ACTIVITY PROCLAIMED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTIES IN
1969 HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT".

3. THE IMPLICATION THAT IT IS TIME TO DEVELOP A NEW
"ANTI-IMPERIALIST PROGRAM" SEEMS TO US TO BE INTENDED
AS A SUBTLE REMINDER TO THE WORLD MOVEMENT THAT BREZHNEV
IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE PARTY CONGRESS SAID THAT THE
CPSU "IN PRINCIPLE SUPPORTS THE IDEA" OF A WORLD CON-
FERENCE, WHICH, HE CLAIMED, "MANY PARTIES ADVOCATE".
A REMINDER IS PERHAPS NECESSARY, FOR IN ALL OF THE
REPORTING WE HAVE SEEN IN THE SOVIET PRESS ON THE
ALLEGEDLY ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE OF THE WORLD MOVEMENT
TO BREZHNEV'S SPEECH, WE DO NOT RECALL HAVING SEEN ANY
REFLECTION OF HIS SUPPORT FOR A WORLD CONFERENCE. MORE-
OVER, WE NOTE THAT AMONG THE TWENTY OR SO MORE IMPORTANT
FOREIGN SPEAKERS AT THE PARTY CONGRESS, ONLY HONECKER
UNAMBIGUOUSLY CALLED FOR A WORLD CONFERENCE, THOUGH
BOTH GIEREK AND KADAR EXPRESSED GENERAL SUPPORT FOR
THE CONCEPT OF SUCH MEETINGS.

4. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE CPSU IS BETWEEN A ROCK AND A
HARD PLACE ON THIS ISSUE, FOR IT CANNOT AFFORD TO GET
AHEAD OF THE OTHER PARTIES IN ITS ADVOCACY OF A WORLD
CONFERENCE, AND YET AT THE SAME TIME NONE OF THE OTHER
PARTIES--AS YET--ARE OUT IN FRONT ON THE ISSUE FAR
ENOUGH FOR THE CPSU TO FALL MODESTLY IN LINE AND AVOID
THE KIND OF OVERT SPONSORSHIP WHICH WOULD DOOM THE
PROJECT TO FAILURE.

5. THE KREMLIN PRESUMABLY HAS ITS OWN MRUKY REASONS FOR
KEEPING A WORLD CONFERENCE AFLOAT. ITS PRESENT DIFFI-
CULTIES IN ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE A REGIONAL CONFERENCE
ON A MUCH NARROWER SCALE WOULD SEEM TO GIVE IT REASON TO
BE WARY OF AN EVEN MORE COMPLEX UNDERTAKING. BUT A
WORLD CONFERENCE COULD ALSO SERVE THE CPSU AS A
CONCEPTUAL ALTERNATIVE TO THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE, TO
BE WARMED UP IN CASE THE LATTER DOES NOT COME OFF OR
PRODUCES SUCH ANEMIC DOCUMENTS THAT IT IS EQUIVALENT TO
FAILURE FROM THE CPSU POINT OF VIEW. WCPC WOULD NOT BE THE FIRST
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EXAMPLE OF A SOP OR FALBACK IN CPSU ANNALS.
STOESSEL

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